



State Energy Office – American Recovery & Reinvestment Act

February 23, 2011

DNR announces closing date for incentives to assist Prospective & Established RESNET Certified Home Energy Raters

Note: All ARRA Enhanced HERO Programs of the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources require RESNET Certified Home Energy Rater verification procedures. These incentives are only available to Louisiana residents.

DNR has had incentives in place since October of 2009 to assist prospective home energy raters bare the costs of getting started in the home energy rating industry/business in Louisiana. Many individuals have taken advantage of the 60% tuition reimbursement incentive to offset their training costs as well as taken advantage of the 50% equipment reimbursement incentive to offset the high costs of purchasing the equipment to perform ratings. HERO Certified Home Energy Raters who were actively working in the original HERO Program on May 1st, 2010 and have conducted at least 10 ratings (10 preliminaries with 10 finals) under the Empower Louisiana HERO Program are eligible for the 50% equipment reimbursement incentive toward the purchase of specific equipment that is purchased on or after October 15th, 2009 (see “Incentive for Established HERO Certified Home Energy Raters” below). All tuition and equipment incentives for prospective HERO Certified Home Energy Raters remain in place, however the available funds are on a first come first served basis, and now have a closing date for availability.

Assistance for Prospective RESNET Certified Home Energy Raters

DNR Policy on Reimbursement for RESNET Training

Upon completion of all Home Energy Rater and HERO Rater certification requirements, the LADNR will reimburse 60% of the training costs associated with becoming certified under RESNET up to a maximum of \$1,000 per student for as long as the funding lasts for students that successfully complete a fully accredited RESNET training course (including the required supervised ratings). This reimbursement incentive will expire on April 30, 2011 at the close of business, 5:30PM.

After successful completion of the course, new RESNET certified Home Energy Raters will be required to submit the following documentation to LADNR.

- Course Training Tuition receipt
- Certification of Completion from Accredited RESNET Trainer
(including passing RESNET exam and completing required supervised ratings)
- Successful Completion of HERO Training Ratings
(included in RESNET courses taught within Louisiana)
- Passing of HERO Program Test
(administered by DNR)

Due to the high startup costs associated with becoming certified as a Home Energy Rater under RESNET and the need for more Home Energy Raters actively working in the enhanced HERO

Program the LDNR will provide a partial reimbursement toward the purchase of mechanical testing equipment for those individuals who obtain full certification under RESNET and the HERO Program, and go on to work under the HERO Program. This reimbursement incentive will expire on April 30, 2011 at the close of business, 5:30PM.

DNR Policy on Reimbursement for Testing Equipment

Upon completion of all Home Energy Rater RESNET and HERO Rater certification requirements, DNR will reimburse 50% of the costs associated with mechanical testing equipment needed to conduct home energy ratings for up to a maximum of \$5,000 per student for as long as the funding lasts, for students that successfully complete a fully accredited RESNET training course, obtain RESNET Home Energy Rater certification and successfully conduct 10 full HERO Program Home Energy Ratings. This reimbursement applies only for as long as the money remains available. This reimbursement incentive will expire on April 30, 2011 at the close of business, 5:30PM.

To receive the DNR reimbursement, applicants will require the following:

- Equipment receipts
- Equipment Make, Model, and Serial Numbers
- Certification of Completion for HERO Training
- RESNET Home Energy Rater Certification Certificate
- Successful Completion of ten HERO Program Ratings

The 50% reimbursement can be applied toward the following equipment purchased on or after October 15th, 2009:

- (1) Blower Door
- (2) Digital Pressure Gauges
- (1) Visible Light Transmittance Meter
- (1) Duct Blaster
- (1) Pressure Pan Assembly
- (1) CO_x Meter
- (1) Thermal Camera

Incentive for Established HERO Certified Home Energy Raters

DNR Policy on Reimbursement for Testing Equipment

HERO Certified Home Energy Raters who were actively working in the original HERO Program on May 1st, 2010 and have conducted at least 10 ratings (10 preliminaries with 10 finals) under the Empower Louisiana HERO Program are now eligible for a 50% equipment reimbursement incentive toward the purchase of specific equipment purchased on or after October 15th, 2009. All available incentive funds are on a first come first served basis. DNR will reimburse 50% of the costs associated with mechanical testing equipment needed to conduct home energy ratings for up to a maximum of \$5,000 per qualified individual. This reimbursement applies only for as long as the money remains available. Applicants that have received incentives under the above "Assistance for Prospective RESNET Certified Home

Energy Raters” are not eligible to receive the incentive listed below. This incentive for Established HERO Certified Home Energy Raters will only be in effect through the 1st quarter of 2011. All requests for reimbursement by established HERO Raters must be filed by no later than the close of business, 5:30PM on March 31, 2011.

To receive the DNR reimbursement, applicants will require the following:

- Must have been listed as an active HERO Certified Home Energy Rater on DNR’s web site before May 1st, 2010
- Equipment receipts
- Equipment Make, Model, and Serial Numbers
- Ten (10 preliminaries with 10 finals) Empower Louisiana HERO Program Ratings

The 50% reimbursement can be applied toward the following equipment purchased on or after October 15th, 2009:

- (1) Blower Door
- (2) Digital Pressure Gauges
- (1) Visible Light Transmittance Meter
- (1) Duct Blaster
- (1) Pressure Pan Assembly
- (1) CO_x Meter
- (1) Thermal Camera

For details on how to apply as an established HERO rater contact Brad @ 225-342-3842, or Buddy @ 225-342-4498

Information on LADNR’s HERO and ARRA-program programs can be found at the LADNR website www.dnr.state.la.us. Information on RESNET can be found at www.natresnet.us.

Information on applying to DNR for training and equipment reimbursements will be provided at all upcoming RESNET training detailed at:

http://dnr.louisiana.gov/sec/execdiv/techasmt/programs/residential/hero/training_and_reimbursement_screen.htm